FRAUDS AND SWINDLES BY MAIL.

Ingenious Sharpers Who Use the Mails to Fleece the Public.

By CAPT. HENRY A. CASTLE, Auditor for the Post Office Department.

lottery swindle from the use of the mails, and it is now almost as obsolete as the 32-cent is now almost as obsolete as the 32-cent dollar of the fathers. Equally vigorous but less effective campaigns have been made against green-goods games and other extensive fraudulent enterprises. But frauds of various kinds, great and small, are yet carried on through this medium to an alarming extent. They are inaugurated by all classes and denominasmall, are yet carried on through this medium to an alarming extent. They are inaugurated by all classes and denominations of tradesmen, by publishers of doubtful periodicals, by cigar and to-bacco dealers, compounders of quack medicines, organizers of bogus mining companies, and inventors of financial siteful and infinitum. pitfalls ad infinitum.

The law which authorizes the Department on satisfactory evidence to exclude these concerns from the use of the mails is so arbitrary that it must be enforced with great caution, and the impartiality as well as the firmness of the Assistant Attorney-General for the Department must be invoked in order that the law may be properly enforced without hard-ship or injustice. Many persons thoughtship or injustice. Many persons thought-lessly adopt experiments to stimulate their private business, and unexpectedly find themselves within the domain of fraud. In such cases they are dealt with as leniently as possible. But in other cases, where the promoters have adopted schemes with the manifest intent of obschemes with the manifest intent of ob-taining money or property on false repre-sentations, they are not only put out of the mails by the issue of "fraud orders," but they are also handed over to United States attorneys for prosecution under the penal statutes. Vigilant as the De-partment is it cannot possibly reach all illegitimate enterprises in time to prevent great loss to the unwary from inconsidillegitimate enterprises in time to prevent great loss to the unwary from inconsid-erate investments in bond enterprises, tontine schemes, certifying coupons, or debentures, on the instalment plan, which promise enormous returns impos-sible of realization by any known system of beneft finance. of honest finance.

Within the past two weeks a wide Within the past two weeks a wide-spread sensation has been created through-out the country by the developments in relation to several concerns engaged in what is called the "turf investment" busi-ness, a scheme of book-making or betting on horse races on the cooperative plan. These concerns, with headquarters in St. Louis and branches in every importan city in the country, were gathering in through the mails and otherwise large sums of money from credulous investors, which they agreed to place in race bets guaranteeing dividends from profits, if any, of from three to five per cent. per week. It would seem that this offer was sufficient on its face to put cautious men on their guard, but, unfortunately, all men are not cautious, and among the thou-sands of investors were men from the highest professional ranks, including lawyers, clergymen, etc.
These institutions, which finally turned

These institutions, which finally turned out to be largely fraudulent, were examined into by the postal authorities, but their operations were not of a nature to be interfered with on the evidence obtained. The Inspectors could not discover proof of existing fraud. The perpetrators gave statements of their assets, liabilities, and earnings, but the Inspectors were not permitted to verify these figures by examination of the Companies' books. Hence, they were unable to furnish proof that the Companies were paying unearned that the Companies were paying uncarned dividends or that they were not in a sol-vent condition. These facts are essential ceeded against under the lottery law. But as that law now stands, this would be impossible, since it does not extend its prohibitions to every sort of gambling de-vices. The question whether the making of bets or pools on races or like events con-stitutes a lottery within the meaning of this act, does not seem to have been the weight of authority in decisions of courts in several States is that the lay-ing of such bets or wagers or the formaing of such bets or wagers or the forma-tion of such pools is not an offense against statutes prohibiting the operation of lot-tery enterprises. The Department has strongly urged that the law be amended to cover these points, but until that recom-mendation is acted upon it can only inter-fere in schemes of this sort when the evi-dence presented clearly shows that the dence presented clearly shows that the enterprises complained of are engaged in perpetrating actual fraud.

Formerly the green-goods swindle was the most extensive one worked through the mails. Few people know exactly what green goods are—many who do know have paid dearly for their know-ledge. The inspectors not long ago rounded up another gang in New York City. The method of these swindlers is to flood the mail with circulars offering for sale to the addressee counterfeit money sold the mail with circulars offering for sale to the addressee counterfeit money "so perfect that it can not be told from the genuine." These men seldom handle counterfeit money. They simply lead the victim on to rob him. No sympathy should be wasted on the man who is swindled by these green-goods dealers. He is, if anything, a more insidious fraud than they are, for he is willing to my. than they are, for he is willing to pur-chase counterfeit money with which to swindle his neighbors. If these fellows have well-executed notes that can be passed as easily as the geruine, why do they wish to sell them at 10 cents on the dollar? Would it not be more profitable to use the counterfeits themselves? Strange, the victims, and there have been thousands of them, never think of this.

were, of those who use the mails for the purposes of defrauding, and from past evidences it seems that during the hot months and the early Fall the hours are spent in concocting enterprises that will bring to them the clusive engle. Perhaps they do not think it expedient to risk debarment by coming forth from their hiding places before the Christmas holihiding places before the Christmas holidays, when the country is usually flooded with the offspring of their fertile brains and the gullible arc in their most altruis-

A plausible scheme of frauds was operated through the mails by advertising for persons to do work at home painting china, representing that the work was easy and the pay good. A remittance of \$3 was required from those desiring to undertake the work; after the remittance was received the promoters declined to pay for or accept the work, on the assumed grounds that it was not done satisfactorily.

An alleged physician of an Indiana town makes the claim that after years of pa-tient delving into the realms of science, he has discovered the clixir of life. After infinite research he prepared it, and now proclaims his willingness to part with it for coin sent him by any one foolish enough to be duped. Pimples, boils, scars on the face, crooked noses, eyes or feet, corns or bunions, hair on the face or arms, or lack of it on the head, are mere bagatelles in the category of ailments this elixir

It is set forth as a cure-all for any disto drive out of the system dropsy, pa-ralysis, locomotor ataxia, consumption, Bright's disease, deafness, or any ill that

That the postal service has been used in the past, and is now being used in spite of all precautions and all reforms inaugurated, for the promotion of innumerable frauds and swindles is too notoerable frauds and swindles is too noto-rious to admit of denial or even to excite may know him to be a charlatan the mo omment. The war against lottery chemes waged vigorously for 20 years there is one wise man there are nine suckers who must be protected. Selling a gold brick to a farmer is a serious deviation

> The Department has put an end to a matrimonial bureau that was doing a thriv-ing business in the East and Middle West same circular \$5 was solicited for the lose the small sum of 25 cents.
>
> name and address and introduction to such person. From hundreds of letters the Post-office Inspectors secured it was proved that no name and address was furched work, and who could held to wanted work and who could

brick to a farmer is a serious deviation from honesty, but preying upon the dupe who has but little money, who may be dangerously ill, and who needs the best medical care, is one of the most diabolical of crimes.

with inducements rivaling an offer of ment writing letters at home, the pay de-cheap coal or equivalent blessings. The scheme was to place advertisements in the formed, patrons were induced to send 25 newspapers, stating that the name of a cents for an outfit, and after the same wealthy widow or a wealthy man who desired to enter the matrimonial state would drawn and another and less desirable one be furnished for a consideration. To persons answering this advertisement a cir-cular was sent describing the person more per cent. on outlits sold. The scheme was fully, and holding out the inducement that designed to operate on poor people who he or she was worth \$75,000. In this wanted work, and who could ill-afford to

Other Remedy.

ble compound to be smoked in a pipe. The medicated smoke is inhaled into the

the receipt of letters through the post-office and frequent inquiries at express

sufficiently to obtain possession of the

If the goods were ordered sent to the place where the supposed buyer resided, Rothschild would inquire at the post-office

for mail, and when told that the most prominent business man of the town bore

the same name, feign great surprise. He would then call upon his namesake, form his acquaintance, and receive the letters he had caused to be mailed, which, natur-

ally, had been delivered with the regular mail, and the contents of which had great-

ly puzzled the local merchant. Roths-child's manner was agreeable, and his

knowledge of the letters so clearly identi-

certain goods soon to arrive that he was

In the latest green-goods swindle the victims are Postmasters, who do not dare

"Have you ever wondered why the Post

of stamps for \$250? We are furnishing the Postmaster at Oysterville with his

to complain to the authorities. It is be lieved that more than 1,000 Postmasters have been swindled out of sums ranging

from \$250 to \$1,000, and at the time the scheme is being worked in Chicago.

The game, as explained to the Inspec tors recently, is so simple that it is not at all strange that thousands of Postmasters



nished, and that the scheme was purely now in prison with 200 charges against nished, and that the scheme was purely one devised to obtain \$5 from gullible people who hoped to find a fortune and a husband or wife for this sum of money. Consequently, the company has been refused the use of the mails.

The prison with 200 charges against the man of the name of a business man of high standing, he would forge an order in his name on a wholesale dealer for merchant the merchant resided, or to some other the merchant resided, or to some other the merchant resided.

A Post-office Inspector now on duty at headquarters in Washington once had a case that was quite out of the ordinary, and the methods he employed to detect criminals were nevel in the extreme. For some time letters had been rifled in one of the large North Communication of the large North Communication of the shipped to the place in which the merchant resided, or to some other locality where, as the writer alleged, he was about to open a branch store. As a rule, these orders were promptly filled.

Rothschild would then assume the name of the "business was about to open a branch store. As a rule, these orders were promptly filled. and the methods he employed to detect criminals were nevel in the extreme. For some time letters had been rifled in one of the large North Carolina post-offices and large sums of money was soften. went condition. These facts are essential under the law as it now stands, to warrant the issue of a fraud order preventing and large sums of money were stolen. Three Inspectors left Washington for the Theory found that the post-office that if they could locate a "lookout" over the office they would succeed in determining the identity of the thieves. Accordingly, they rented the Opera House, and, working day and night, removed a section of the floor. Their plans were nearly frustrated by the accidental disappearance of one of their number through the floor, falling among the clerks below. The Inspector's presence of mind, however, enabled him to explain that he was making repairs to the theater. Their pains were rewarded one night by the discovery of rewarded one might of a clerk in the act of rifling registered let-ters. While the Inspectors watched he opened nine envelopes, from some of opened nine envelopes, from some of which he extracted all the contents, and from others only a portion, changing the figures in the letter of transmittal. The clerk had the door of the registry division locked, and no view could be had of him from the outside, but while he moved from side. It was delicate work to make an arrest under such circumstances, but the Inspectors went down the stairs and suspicion. stealthily approaching the door they smashed it open. The clerk made a grab for his weapon, but before he could reach victims are it one of the Inspectors pressed a pistol to complain under his ear, causing him to surrender at once. The Inspectors had traced the once. The inspectors had traced the rifling of ordinary letters to another clerk, and they caused the Postmaster to send word to him that the registry man was ill, and it would be necessary for him to take his place. The new man had been in the office less than half an hour when the opened several letters and his areast he opened several letters, and his arrest was made without delay. Both were given terms in the penitentiary.

A smart Boston man evaded the "fraud" A smart boston man evaded the "trand" provisions of postal laws, and gathered in funds by a plausible bunco game until suppressed. He represented that he was the trustee of an estate named "The Webster Estate," and as such trustee had a large sum of money to loan at a low rate of in-terest. He required prospective borrowers to advance him certain sums nominally securing remittances from persons desiring to borrow money. And, further, there was no such concern as "The Webster Estate," but that name was fictitious and adopted simply to make people believe the false representation that he had money to learn

To those who answered such advertisements a long circular was sent, asking that 25 cents be sent for a "complete copying outfit." After the remittances called for were received the patrons were directed to make copies of a letter similar to the following:

"Dear Friend: I am endeavoring to make a little extra money, and have taken the agency for a fountain pen, and can the agency for a fountain pen, and can trecommend it to you as entirely satisfactory in every particular, and at the very low price of 25 cents. If you can use one of these pens at this special price, send 25 cents in coin or one-cent stamps to the

one of these pens at this special price, send
25 cents in coin or one-cent stamps to the
Company, Box 2424
, and they will send you one
by mail. Please mention my sales No. as
below, so that I will receive credit for the
sale.
"P. S.—They also make a solid gold 14karat fountain pen, should you want something fine."
These letters the dupes were directed to
mail to their friends.

o'clock."
Such Postmasters as were entrapped
were met by a "steerer," who took them
in charge and conducted them to a flat
in New York City. Here an entirely new
game is said to have been worked, and
one which for cleverness has never been
excelled.
As soon as the deal was conducted and
the money turned over the stamps would
be counted out and placed in the covers
of an atlas,

"Now," remarked the green-goods man, "it will be manyise for you to open this package untilition have reached home. You take this parcel of stamps, get in a cab and drive abonce to the station and take the first trainshome."

Then the "steerer" would take the "come-on" into the street, would call a cab standing gauspiciously near, and the two would start for the ferry.

The change in the package of stamps Catarrh Can Be Cured. Dr. Blosser's Catarrh Cure Has Cured More People of Catarrh Than Any

This is the only remedy that goes direct-This is the only remedy that goes directly to the diseased parts and cures Catarrh, Bronchitis, Deafness and Asthma, without burdenening the system by taking into the stomach medicine which deranges the The change in the package of stamps was worked in the cab. As the cab turned into a side street on the way to the ferry, the "steerer" would exclaim with sup-pressed excitement: digestion and breaks down the general Dr. Blosser's Catarrh Cure is a vegeta-

"Great Seost, there's Titus, the Chief of Detectives! He's on to us as sure as apples. Here; throw that package under the seat, quieb!" head, nose, throat, and lungs, reaching every affected spot, giving speedy relief

The buyer of bogus stamps in every case lost his nerve in the combustible instantaneousness of his fright, and tossed the package under the seat of the cab. and effecting a permanent cure.

This remedy is put up in tin boxes containing a month's treatment, which will be sent by mail to any part of the United States or Canada for \$1.00. Trial samples will be mailed free to persons desiring to test the remedy. Address Dr. Blosser Company, 320 Walton tion with the pressure of his feet upon a spring dropped upon the package of real stamps a false bottom upon which reposed a package of brown paper instead of Unit-ed States postage stamps. When the buyexamined his purchase on the way home e realized just how he had been deceived, but would never expose the swindle, ow-ing to the certainty of losing both reputation and office.

> Some postal frauds are pathetic in their hardship. Among the hardest are the home-knitting machine," the "home embroidery making" and other "home work" schemes. There are millions of women living in small towns and on farms to whom real home employment would be a veritable boon. It is such women these firms succeed in reaching. The words "profita-ble, steady, easy, home employment at good wages" are very alluring. The nature of the employment is usually only hinted at in an enticing manner. The vic-tims find that they must buy knitting, crocheting or embroidery machines or "outfits," which are sold at several times "outfits," which are sold at several times their actual value. The would-be working woman at home responds and sends her money. If she succeeds in "making" any of the articles and sends them in the belief that they will be "purchased," she finds them promptly returned with a letter saying that they are defective in workmanship; and "cannot be accepted." Perhaps these deceived women will attempt haps these deceived women will attempt this hide-and-seek game with the alleged firm a dozen times before they learn that there is no intention of buying the product. Sometimes out of thousands of cases a few cents' worth of goods will be "purchased" in order that the beetle-browed miracle of

to be gold rings. There was no explanation accompanying the rings, but the address of the firm shipping was on each package. Some of the recipients refused the packages on examining them, while others were more careless and accepted them. The rings were plainly imitation.

Some were thrown away, others given away, and the matter forgatten. Your lady in Covington, Ky., containing the package of the promoter, and the sale of music in this conception. As a scheme for working on self-esteem and vanity this conception is worthy one of the promoter, and the sale of music in this scheme for working on self-esteem and vanity this conception is worthy one of the promoter, and the sale of music in this conception. Stand up here by me and don't wanty this conception is worthy one of placing railroads yet to be built on a dividend-paying business.

A young lady in Covington, Ky., conaway, and the matter forgotten. comes the firm shipping them with comes the firm shipping them with the claim that it received orders in good faith from canvassers, that the orders were filled, and that the acceptance of the goods concluded the agreements. A bill for a considerable sum for one gold ring has been sent to each recipient who retained the goods, and the Department issues a "fraud order."

The scheme of one fraudulent concern was begun by advertising in newspapers that it had for sale an article called "whisky tablets," which, when dissolved in water, made a substitute for whisky not distinguishable from the real article The advertisement is, in part, as follows:
"Whisky men alarmed over the discovery of Whisky Tablets. Have they found a way of extracting oil out of corn or rye, or do they use other ingredients? That is the secret of the Whisky Tablet Company.

they were put up simply to show how tablets can be used. The excuse given for not sending the genuine tablets was that too many send for the free article; because the profits were too small, and because young boys might send for them and cause packages on their arrival. He would then disappear, carry his plunder with him—which usually consisted of diamonds, jewelry, or other articles of small bulk. trouble. The circular was such as to lead the patron to believe that good whisky could be made from the tablets.

Finally the "whisky tablets" were sen when money was remitted, but they were not as represented. The "whisky tablets" dissolved in water had no resemblance to dissolved in water had no resemblance to genuine whisky, and none of the ingredients of pure whisky. dients of pure whisky.

The "dot-counting" and the "easy puzzle contents" appeal to many, who are, of course, beaten in the end. A firm will advertise money prizes to be awarded to the person, correctly counting the number of black dots in a circle, or who solves a puzzle, both of which are so easy that thousands send in correct answers. The deluded people wonder why business men will throw away money in so reckless a fashion, and anxiously await a reply to their letters. They omitted to note in the advertisement, or, noting it, attached no importance to a fine line of type which stated that all contestants shall be members of the firm's club of eligibles, and they are throughout the country have been caught. It is the old green-goods fraud arranged for trapping Postmasters, and they have the answer, and after getting his money the prize he receives will be a one-cent fallen into the deadfall in prodigious numpostage stamp or a penny, that being his share of the prize as proportionately divided. A grown man credulous enough to be deceived by this fraud would be qualified to enter a competition for first capitally that it might almost be called a postage stamp or a penny, that being his pected that the land was good for any-thing. Now there are more than 173,000 Mich., was visiting the Falls Oct. 1, 1861, and on returning to the York State side one day one of the party asked the bridge superintendent if he might go up to the top of the tower and was answered. Seductive circulars were sent out to thousands of Postmasters of small towns reading somewhat as follows: master at Oysterville dresses in furs and drives fast horses, while his wife wears costly laces and diamonds, and his chil-dren are dressed in a style which puts prize in the next baby show.

to advance him certain sums nominally for attorneys' and other fees for examining the titles to the properties offered as securities. He never made a loan and had no money to loan, but took this means of securing remittances from persons desiring to borrow money. And, further, there was no such concern as "The Webster Estate," but that name was fictious and tamonous, and his chilling almonous, and his chilling and his chilling and the content of the stand and had severed a lot of "lucky stones" on his travels through India, which he was willing to send by uncome or not? If you would like to know why his income is so much better than yours we can tell you.

Postal atthorities not long ago cleaned out the country that he had secured a lot of "lucky stones" on his travels through India, which he was willing to send by uncome or not? If you would like to know why his income is so much better than yours we can tell you. out or not. He had gathered in the

Not in recent years have any mail swin-dlers been so bold as that humorist who, advertising that he would send a certain way of getting rich on receipt of \$1, sent out little slips containing the words "Work like the devil and never spend a cent," but manipulators of the mails almost as brazen are constantly requiring suppression. When we stop to reflect how long this mail swindling has been going on, and then consider that tens of millions of newspapers containing accounts of such swindles are constantly circulated, we are lles are constantly circulated, we tempted to eccept the theory that there is a sucker born every minute who classes himself as a fiscal phenomenon and twin brother of the Bank of England-and he

An alleged clergyman in Boston started peculiarly atrocious confidence game by inserting this advertisement in numerous

"Wanted—A good Christian man as an associate in our business; one qualified to conduct correspondence from our Boston office; to make occasional visits to towns and cities in Massachusetts, and make selections from applicants for positions; also, to invest \$300 in our business, after careful investigation; no canvassing; salary, \$60 per month."

When an answer was received to this advertisement, correspondence was entered into, and after an explanation of the busi-

attempted to set forth the great good he expected to do in the work in which he was engaged, praising himself for the self-sacrifices he had made for the Church, after the manner of the self-made man, who is always calling attention to his special style of architecture. The evidence submitted, however, conclusively showed that the representations he made showed that the representations he made were false. To each of these parties he claimed that he lacked just a small amount of money, say, \$300 or \$400, to start and fully establish his business, to get his literature out and circulate the same. Investigation showed that he had no plan formulated upon which to conduct his business, and that this representation was made to each of the parties from whom he solicited funds.

fessing losses, the Department is deluged with tales of doleful woe from some of the people who have invested money with New York and Chicago swindlers, claim-ing to conduct speculative operations and doing business entirely through the mails. These outfits are broken up by the post-office authorities as soon as their fraudulent character is clearly established, but it seems impossible to drive the men who run the alleged investment agencies out of run the alleged investment agencies out of business. The game is easy for them, and they are fully posted as to obstacles in the way of convicting them. As soon as one "brokerage" establishment is broken up, the men who have conducted it simply move to another block and open a new of fice under another name. The change only involves the getting out another batch of literature. The thousands of dollars which these sharpers get from educated men and women is a perpetual source of astonish-ment. These shorn victims usually con-ceal their losses, and protest as demurely as a lamb from the inside of a lion. It is the more ignorant class of losers who smother their pride and give strenuous utterance to wrathful lamentation.

Notwithstanding the humiliation of con-

No man has ever succeeded in permanently cornering the humbug market. A so-called Music Company of Chicago represented in letters purporting to be personal that a certain piece of music published by the company had been dedicated to the addressee, and soliciting an order for such music. It appeared that in no case had the music been dedicated as represented, but that the representation was made mendacity behind the swindle may have a solely to induce such persons to purchase shadow of defense when brought into court by the postal authorities. A hundred or more citizens of a West-ern town received by mail what purported to "save the good name" of the promoter,

A young lady in Covington, Ky., con-ceived the idea of mailing leters to promi-neat persons and concerns throughout the country, requesting remittances of \$5 from each in order to assist her in completing her education. To induce such remit-tances, it was stated that she was trying to work her way through school and was experiencing a great deal of difficulty in doing so: that she had adopted, as a last resort, the means named to secure necestal way. A lever was pulled and a dim hum filled the room. The indicator of the resort, the means named to secure necessary money, and further represented that she had written to but 25 persons. The evidence collected by the Department showed that the representations were false, and made simply for the purpose of securing \$5 from a large number of benevicent persons. The fake medicines, warranted to save patients whom the doctors have given up as both incurable and unkillable, are scarcely superior in measureless audacity and refined cruelty to this brazen scheme.

are islands in the ocean, but principally the section was under water the year around. Two-thirds of the so-called "lost it was like twilight under the great trees. ducks found so little molestation that the

The land is very rich. Corn needs only to be plowed twice. Turnips weighing five and a half pounds, apples 11 ounces, onion and a half pounds, apples 11 ounces, onions and sweet potatoes weighing four pounds, were all raised on land once a forest sea.

The price of land is advancing rapidly, towns are building and farms spreading. New Madrid has electric lights, a telephone system, and plenty of money to loan.

This section was bronght into prominence during the war of the rebellion by the brilliant capture of New Madrid and Island No. 10, by Gen. Pope. His mencut a canal through the heavily-wooded country from New Madrid to a point opposite, through which the transports were floated. The enemy, who were on Island No. 10, being cut off from succor or retreat, surrendered with their entire force of 7,000 men. This remarkable exploit gave Gen. Pope a high reputation throughout the country.

One third the way across the bridge to where he could reach the stay-ropes which supported the bridge from the cables.

"On these he climbed to the highest cable on the up-river side of the bridge, and standing up on that, he slowly walked to the top of the tower, being from 275 walk. From the top of the tower a wire-rope ladder hung down to about 40 feet above the bridge.

In the way across the bridge to where he could reach the stay-ropes which supported the bridge from the cables.

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During the recent excitement in the South about smallpox, children, of course, South about smallpox, children, of course, were subjected to the ordeal of vaccination, and not a few parents protested against the vaccination of delicate children. A little girl who had been considered too delicate to undergo the operation for prevention had been kept closely at home, and returned to her Sunday-school only when all the alarm concerning the only when all the alarm concerning the epidemic was over. In the course of the lesson the teacher asked her why Moses was hidden in the bulrushes.
"I suppose his father and mother didn't
want to have him vaccinated," confidently

Mr. Kidder: "People say that it is im-possible to find a needle in a hay-stack— but ther're wrong."

out ther're Mrs. Kidder: "How would you go about Mr. Kidder: "Walk across the stack in

promoter for the applicant to visit him at his office in order that details might be arranged and a contract signed. The man was cited by the Department to show cause why a fraud order should not issue, to which he admitted he had realized from advertising and correspondence the sum of \$1,550, and that this sum had been collected from eight different persons. It attempted to set forth the great good he expected to do in the work in which he

We are offering the Treasury Stock of the Powhatan Mining Co. for sale at Five Dollars per share, par value Ten Dollars per share.

The mines are accessable-in Culpeper County, Virginia-only four hours' ride from Washington City.

The mines have been proven.

Vast quantities of gold-bearing ore, the values, can be saved! Modern methods of mining and reduction will make the Powhatan mines a

dividend paying proposition. An investment in the Treasury Stock of the Powhatan Mine will surely bring satisfactory results.

\$25,000 IN GOLD

Will be distributed to holders of Treasury Stock of the Powhatan Mine on July 15, 1903, Write

GEO. M. SLYE & CO.,

Investment Bankers.

Washington, D. C. 619 F Street N. W.,

MARCONI AT WORK. Sending Wireless Messages Over 3,000 Miles

of Ocean. (The World's Work.)

ox-like Leyden jars; while at the easterly box-like Leyden jars; while at the easterly side was the magnetic-detector which has replaced the coherer in receiving messages; on the south side was the induction coll and great zine and copper tanks of oil. Over the Leyden jars, which occupied the greater portion of the room, were four huge sheets of zinc bound with copper. On the concrete floor were rubber mats, and the walls and low ceiling were of hardwood. Here some important de-vices were completed late in January and some important discoveries made. Queer instruments stored in all parts of the room evidently played their part in the general scheme. On a northerly wall over a plat-form were tables with a brass sendingkey and a great wooden lever also used for sending. Marconi stood on this plat-form, his hand resting near the sender. "Now," he said, "when I signal to the electrician 50,000 volts will come into the

I confess I stood as close to Marconi on the little platform as I could.

This scene is indelibly stamped in my memory; the room, packed with its queer, mysterious justruments, of some of which the electrical world knows nothing, and that slight, youthful figure of Marconi, with his eyes fixed on the indicator, his sensitive hands on the key. "All ready!" he cried to the electrician

hallway. A lever was pulled and a dim hum filled the room. The indicator of the

There was a blinding flash of bluish light, for with each movement of the key great sparks jumped two inches between the two silvered knobs of the induction coil. One knob of this coil is connected with the earth, forming the ground connection, the other with the wire leading to the perial wires. remarkable earthquake of 1811, which lasted several months, severely injured this region, leaving the land, known as the "sunk country," under water. The greatest depth, an expanse of five miles, was in New Madrid County, and this part of the State was almost an unbroken sea out of which grow great trees. These was almost an expanse of the state was almost an unbroken sea out of which grow great trees. These was almost an expanse of the state was almost an unbroken sea out of which grow great trees. These was almost an expanse of the state was almost an unbroken sea out of which grow great trees. These was the state was almost an expanse of the state was almost an unbroken sea. in New Madrid County, and this part of the State was almost an unbroken sea out of which grew great trees. There were some hills and knolls, just as there are islands in the ocean, but principally one impressed by the fact that here, in this very room, a mesage was being sent through the air across that gloomy stretch of 3,000 miles of ocean, the noise and the light seemed fitting—gave touch of the superhuman, of force, of in-

A Dare-Devil Feat.

Apropos to the feat of a dare devil workman on the cantilever bridge at Niagara, related in The National Tribune of Jan. I, Lieut. Asa W. Slayton, Co. B, 25th Mich., Grand Rapids, Mich., writes:

"The first bridge over the Niagara gorge was the noted Suspension bridge, complet-ed for railroad traffic in 1855. The bridge importance to a fine line of type which importance to a fine line of type which stated that all contestants shall be members of the firm's club of eligibles, and they are chagrined to learn later that to be a member they must buy a particular article the firm sells, perhaps for 50 cents or \$1. They also omitted to notice a line of fine Another is 35 miles long, 40 feet wide, and 12 feet deep. Running into these which supported the Clifton bridge chagrined to learn later that to be a member they must buy a particular article the firm sells, perhaps for 50 cents or \$1. They also omitted to notice a line of fine type which read that in "the event of two or more persons sending the correct solution, the prize shall be proportionately divided among the winners." Every contesant is notified that he correctly guessed the answer, and after getting his money. are now supported on great arches of iron

> to the top of the tower, and was answered. "Yes, if you can get there." The applicant took off his shoes, walked out about cant took off his shoes, walked out about one-third the way across the bridge to where he could reach the stay-ropes which supported the bridge from the cables.
>
> "On these he climbed to the highest cable on the up-river side of the bridge, and standing up on that, he slowly walked to the top of the tower, being from 275 to 320 feet above the water during the walk. From the top of the tower a wirewalk. From the top of the tower a wirewalk. From the top of the tower a wirewalk. Notes

on the cable, some 70 or 80 feet to where a two-inch cable ran across connecting the up-river and down-river cables, and being fully 70 feet above the bridge. On being fully 70 feet above the bridge. On this he crossed to the down-river side of the bridge, stopping at the middle and hanging by his hands, dangled his body in the air below a few minutes; then throwing up his feet and clinging to the cable with them his whole body, head and arms, swung underneath like a pendulum. By this time the grounds around were covered with people, who had run from every direction shouting "Blondin! Blondin!" He next walked up the down-river cable to the top of the tower, paused a short time to have a good look at the Whirlpool Rapids, then walked down the cable to its anchorage block, climbed down to the bridge, jumped up on the hand-rail and bridge, jumped up on the hand-rail and ran back on it to his shoes, put them on, and descended to the ground, where he received many congratulations and some invitations to "Come in and have a drink," which he did not do and never did. Col.
L. K. Bishop, now Postmaster of this
city, was there and saw it all. I know
that the above is strictly true, for I was
the fool who did it."

Story of the "Three Jims."

The story of the "Three Jims," all of whom were members of Co. A, 77th N. Y .. and each of whom lost a leg June 21, 1864, (The World's Work.)

Marconi opened the door, and we entered a room where few have been. The center of this place was filled with great box-like Leyden jars; while at the easterly

were very active in our front, and were shelling our position with a 32-pound bat-tery. The "three Jims"—James Allen, James E. Barnes and James A. Lawrence -were sitting together eating their noon meal, when a shell dropped near where we were, wounding the left leg of each so that immediate amputation was neces-

"We were taken that afternoon by am-We were taken that afternoon by ambulance to a temporary hospital, eight miles distant, at City Point, on the James River. A few days afterward we were removed with the other wounded to Washington, D. C., and we three assigned to Ward 7 in the old Stanton Hospital. We recovered and separated, and after the war Barnes and Allen returned to Essex County, N. Y., and I came West. Barnes and Allen died in 1890 within a few weeks of each other, and at that time I was in New York, having gone to attend the

Reunion of the 77th.

"I have been a resident of Tecumseli, Neb., for the last 25 years, and am in fair health, considering my three-score years and the hardships I have passed through. I am a constant reader of The National Tribune, and have in my heart a years place for the old soldier. If any Reunion of the 77th. warm place for the old soldier. If any of the veterans who read this article ever visit Nebraska, and will call upon me,

they will receive a hearty welcome."

Judge Lawrence is at present Police
Judge of the city of Tecumseh. He served
for a number of years as member of the
City Council, and is now a member of the
City Board of Education, which position
he has held for about 12 years. He is an part of Nebraska.

Electric Mail Service.

An Italian inventor has commanded at-An Itanian inventor has commanded attention by his system of rapid electric postal service. To determine the practicability of the system an expert committee has been appointed by the Italian Minister of Posts, which now has the matter in hand. The underlying principle is the electric telebrates oversited at phenomen. rule, these orders were promptly filled.

Rothschild would then assume the name of the "business man," and have letters addressed to him under this name at the place to which the goods were to be shipped. If the place chanced to be one at which a branch was to be opened, Rothschild would appear a few days in advance of the arrival of the goods, and by cally continuous dispatching, would be an improvement over present railroad and wagon distribution. Areas of different importance would receive a corresponding service, depending on density tion and commercial activity. system the towns of greatest importance become the chief divisional offices, inter-change of letters taking place between them and towns of secondary magnitude. They in their turn become distributing and sorting centers for still smaller towns The mail line wires are fed from high volt The mail line wires are fed from high voltage feeders supplying current at 5,000 volts, to be reduced by step-down transformers to 260 volts potential. The dispatch boxes are propelled by electric motors mounted on small trucks and taking current through the wheels resting on aerial wires. The permanent way is of light design, as neither the motor nor rolling stock require great strength. All lines are divided into blocks, and no dispatch box can enter one block until it is clear of all other dispatch boxes. It is also contemplated that sections just ahead of any station would be cut off from current so that the dispatch boxes, with the assistance of braking arrangements will come to a standstill readily. Among other refinements of the system are an apparacome to a standstill readily. Among other refinements of the system are an apparatus for stamping letters with the date, hour and minute of posting, and poles which act as transformer boxes, as well as supporters of the permanent way, and of boxes in which letters may be dropped and then carried by an electric lift to the top of the pole carrying the lines, for emptying into dispatch boxes.

(London Punch.)

She: "How's the motor-car getting on, Sir, Charles?"

He: "Well, fact is, I've seen very little of it. You see, I've only had it three months, and when it isn't in the hospital, I am."

Briggs Temple-Clasp Eyeglasses.

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